

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 L-03 PA-01 CA-01
VO-05 NSCE-00 INR-10 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 HA-05
FBIE-00 SY-05 INSE-00 SES-02 SMS-02 /075 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8174
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 14908

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF, BE (MATEVOSYAN, KARIN YERMOLAYEVA)
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM

REF: BRUSSELS 14679 (NOTAL)

1. ON JULY 31 MRS. MATEVOSYAN HAD FIRST IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW WITH UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE. UNHCR REPORTED TO CONSULAR OFFICER THAT SUBJECT REMAINS FIRM IN HER DETERMINATION TO IMMIGRATE TO THE U.S. WITH HER TWO MINOR CHILDREN. UNHCR SAID HE IS CONVINCED THAT SUBJECT'S DETERMINATION TO LEAVE THE USSR PERMANENTLY HAS BEEN WELL PLANNED FOR MANY MONTHS.

2. SUBJECT AND CHILDREN ARE NO LONGER UNDER BELGIAN CARE IN SAFE PROTECTIVE CUSTODY. THEY HAVE BEEN TURNED OVER TO LOCAL VOLAG, TOLSTOY FOUNDATION, FOR PROCESSING FOR EVENTUAL INTERVIEW BY I.N.S. FOR CONDITIONAL ENTRY INTO THE U.S.

3. BELGIAN AUTHORITIES NOW REPORT THAT SUBJECT'S JULY 27TH
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INTERVIEW BY " OFFICIALS OF SOVIET EMBASSY " WAS, IN FACT, INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY ONE SOVIET OFFICIAL, USSR CONUL AND FIRST SECRETARY, NIKOLAI BRAJNIKOV. THE BELGIANS STATE THAT BRAJNIKOV SPOKE WITH SUBJECT IN VERY RELAXED, EVEN CORDIAL MANNER, AND MADE NO DEMANDS THAT THE BELGIAN RETURN HER AND THE CHILDREN TO THE SOVIET " FOLD " AND MADE NO THREATS AGAINST SUBJECT AND HER HUSBAND AND/OR

FAMILY STILL IN THE USSR. THIS, ACCORDING TO
BELGIANS, WAS IN MARKED CONTRAST TO PREVIOUS INTERVIEWS IN
ASYLUM CASES. THERE WAS AN EVIDENT WISH BY THE SOVIET NOT
TO DRAMATIZE THE CASE.

4. SINCE SUBJECT AND CHILDREN ARE NOW IN CARE OF VOLAG FOR
CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROCESSING, NO FURTHER REPORTS
WILL BE MADE UNLESS SOMETHING UNUSUAL SHOULD DEVELOP.
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